WE CLAIM:

1. A discrete powder which comprises particles in which a biliquid foam has been entrapped within a matrix of a polymeric material.

2. A powder as claimed in claim 1 which is a spray dried powder, a freeze dried powder or a powder produced by fluidized bed granulation.

3. A powder as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 which has a mean particle size in the range of from 5 to 150μm.

4. A powder as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the polymeric material encapsulating the biliquid foam is selected from carboxymethylcellulose, hydroxyethylcellulose, cetyl-hydroxycellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxy-propylmethylcellulose, hydroxyethylmethyl-cellulose methylcellulose, gelatin, gum arabic, gum acacia, gellan gum, shellac, carragenan, natural starch, modified starch, xanthan gum, an alginate, a dextrin, polyvinyl alcohol, polyvinyl acetate, polyvinylpyrollidone or a polyamide, or mixtures thereof.

5. A powder as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the biliquid foam comprises an substantially water immiscible internal oil phase which comprises a cyclomethicone, dimethicone, phenyl trimethicone, dimethiconol, dimethicone copolyol, trimethylsiloxysilicate, isopropyl isostearate, lanolate, myristate or palmitate, or octyl palmitate, avocado oil, coconut oil, soybean oil or sunflower oil, a caprylic/capric triglyceride, a lanolin oil, orange oil, mineral oil

or natural oil, or oleyl alcohol or mixtures thereof.

6. A powder as claimed in claim 5 which comprises from 5% to 50% by weight of an oil, based upon the weight of the powder.

7. A process for the preparation of a discrete powder which comprises a biliquid foam entrapped within a matrix of a polymeric material, which process comprises the steps of:

i) preparing a biliquid foam,

ii) forming a dispersion of the biliquid foam in an aqueous solution, suspension or dispersion of a polymeric material, and

iii) subjecting the dispersion to drying under conditions such that a discrete powder is formed.

8. A process as claimed in claim 7 wherein the drying is carried out by spray drying or freeze drying of the dispersion, or subjecting the dispersion to a fluidized bed granulation process.

9. A process as claimed in claim 7 or claim 8 wherein the biliquid foam prepared in step (i) has a mean droplet size in the range of from 1 to 45 micrometres.

10. A process as claimed in claim 7 wherein the biliquid foam has a droplet size of below 12 micrometres.

11. A process as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 9 wherein the polymeric material is selected from carboxymethylcellulose, hydroxyethylcellulose, cetylhydroxycellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose,

hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, hydroxyethylmethyl-cellulose, methylcellulose, gelatin, gum arabic, gum acacia, gellan gum, shellac, carragenan, natural starch, modified starch, xanthan gum, an alginate, a dextrin, polyvinyl alcohol, polyvinyl acetate, polyvinyl-pyrollidone or a polyamide, or mixtures thereof.

12. A process as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 11 wherein the biliquid foam comprises an essentially water immiscible internal oil phase which comprises a cyclomethicone, dimethicone, phenyl trimethicone, dimethiconol, dimethicone copolyol, trimethylsiloxysilicate, isopropyl isostearate, lanolate, myristate or palmitate, octyl palmitate, avocado oil, coconut oil, soybean oil or sunflower oil, a caprylic/capric triglyceride, a lanolin oil, orange oil, mineral oil or natural oil, or oleyl alcohol, or mixtures thereof.

13. A process as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 11 wherein the continuous phase of the biliquid foam is an aqueous phase.

14. A process as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 13 wherein the aqueous phase includes therein a C_1-C_4 alcohol or ethylene glycol.

15. A process as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 13 wherein the spray drying conditions comprise an inlet temperature in the range of from 170 to 210°C and an outlet temperature in the range of from 85 to 110°C.

16. A process as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 15 wherein the discrete powder has a mean particle size in the range of from 5 to 150μm.

17. A process as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 16 wherein the discrete powder is subjected to granulation or formed into tablets.

18. A fragrance composition or a deodorizing composition which comprises a powder as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6 in which a fragrance or deodorizing material is entrapped within an encapsulating polymer that allows the release of the fragrance or deodorizing material over time, or by rupture of the encapsulating polymer on the application of pressure, or by dissolution of the encapsulating polymer on contact with a solvent therefor.

19. A diaper, incontinence pad or feminine hygiene product which incorporates therein a fragrance composition or a deodorizing composition as claimed in claim 17.

20. A fragrancing device which incorporates therein a fragrance composition as claimed in claim 18.

21. A deodorizing device which incorporates therein a deodorizing composition as claimed in claim 18.

22. A tamper proof seal which comprises a flexible film incorporating therein or having coated thereon a powder as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6, the encapsulating polymer used in the formation of the said powders rupturing when deformed and the oil contained within the powder particles comprising a colourless precursor of a coloured dye which, on release, undergoes a chemical change to become highly coloured.

23. A hard surface cleaning product which comprises a powder as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6, the encapsulating polymer used in the formation of the said powders being water soluble and the oil contained within the powder particles comprising a household cleaning oil, the powder being provided as a dry surface on an applicator.